

Message Text

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TAGS: OVIP, IT (CARTER, LILLIAN)

SUBJ: MISS LILLIAN'S VISIT TO ITALY: BIOGRAPHIC SKETCH

ON TINA ANSELM, ITALIAN MINISTER OF HEALTH

1. THERE FOLLOWS A BIOGRAPHIC SKETCH OF HEALTH MINISTER ANSELM FOR USE IN THE PREPARATION OF BRIEFING MATERIALS FOR MISS LILLIAN'S VISIT TO ROME.

2. A LEADER IN NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL MOVEMENTS FOR WOMEN'S RIGHTS AND EQUALITY, TINA ANSELM IS A PROMINENT MEMBER OF THE CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC PARTY (DC). SHE WAS THE FIRST WOMAN IN THE HISTORY OF THE ITALIAN REPUBLIC TO BE NAMED TO A CABINET POST, HAVING SERVED AS MINISTER OF LABOR FROM 1976 TO 1978. WHEN THE PRESENT ANDREOTTI GOVERNMENT WAS FORMED IN MARCH 1978, ANSELM BECAME MINISTER OF HEALTH.

3. BORN IN 1927 IN THE NORTH-EASTERN VENETO REGION WHERE SHE CONTINUES TO MAKE HER HOME, ANSELM WAS ACTIVE AS A "COURIER" IN THE ANTI-FASCIST RESISTANCE. SHE HAS A DEGREE IN LITERATURE AND TAUGHT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL FOR A NUMBER OF YEARS. SHE SUBSEQUENTLY MOVED INTO THE TEXTILE WORKERS' AND TEACHERS' LABOR MOVEMENTS AND LATER INTO DC POLITICS. ANSELM HAS SERVED AS A DEPUTY IN PARLIAMENT SINCE 1968, RE-ELECTED EACH TIME WITH AN EVER-LARGER PLURALITY, EVIDENCE OF HER POPULARITY WITH THE ELECTORATE. IN DC POLITICS, SHE WAS A CLOSE ASSOCIATE

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OF THE LATE DC LEADER, ALDO MORO.

4. ACTIVE IN WOMEN'S AFFAIRS, ANSELM WAS A FOUNDER OF THE WORLD UNION OF CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC WOMEN AND WAS TWICE ELECTED VICE PRESIDENT OF THE EUROPEAN UNION OF DC WOMEN. IN 1975 SHE WENT TO MEXICO FOR THE UN-SPONSORED WORLD CONFERENCE OF THE INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S YEAR. SHE HAS ALSO SPONSORED IMPORTANT

LEGISLATION CONCERNING WOMEN'S RIGHTS, DRUG ABUSE PREVENTION
AND YOUTH EMPLOYMENT.

5. TINA ANSELMIS IS CONSIDERED ONE OF THE MORE ABLE MINISTERS
IN THE ANDREOTTI CABINET. SHE IS KNOWN FOR HER IMPERTURBABLE
CAPABILITY, HER HIGHLY DEVELOPED SENSE OF FAIR PLAY AND TOLERANCE,
HER INTEGRITY AND ENERGY. ANSELMIS SPENT TWO MONTHS IN
THE US IN 1962 AS A LEADER STUDYING WOMEN'S RIGHTS, RURAL
YOUTH, EDUCATION AND RACIAL INTEGRATION. SHE SPEAKS VERY
LITTLE ENGLISH. NEVER MARRIED, TINA ANSELMIS IS EXTREMELY
DEVOTED TO THE CHILDREN OF HER SIBLINGS WHO CONSTITUTE A
SURROGATE FAMILY FOR HER. GARDNER

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